



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7841/2

Duration of Permit: From 19 May 2018 to 19 May 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Bunbury

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Ocean Drive Road Reserve (PIN 1301096), Withers

Ocean Drive Road Reserve (PIN 1301097), Withers

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.04349 hectares of native vegetation and one tree within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7841/2a and Plan 7841/2b.

CONDITIONS

1. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

2. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

3. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared;
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2 of this permit.

4. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO the records required under condition 3 of this Permit, when requested by the CEO.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

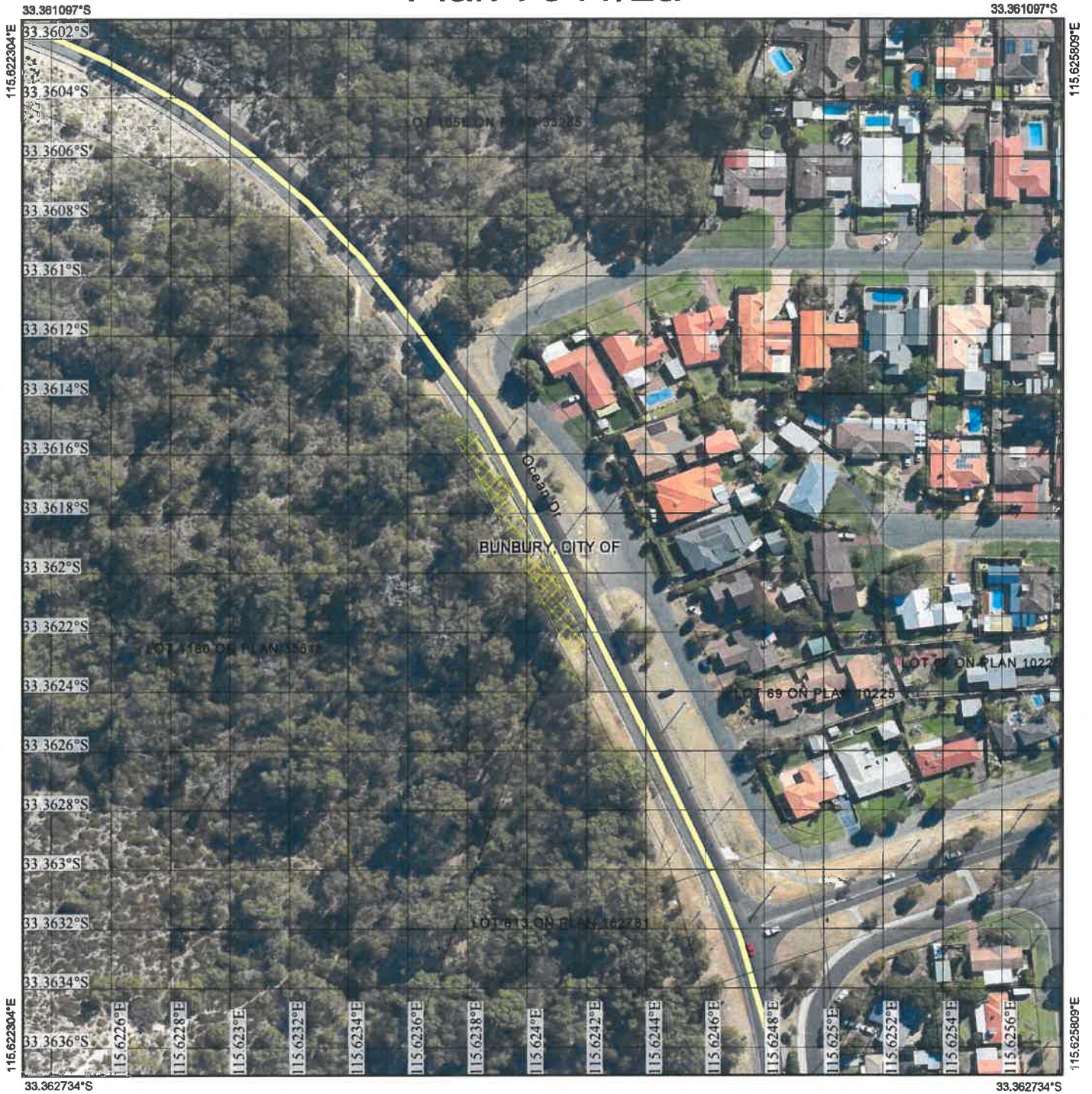


Samara Rogers
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

31 August 2018

Plan 7841/2a



Legend

-  Roads - Main Road
-  Imagery
-  Cadastre
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority



1:1,728

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Samara Rogers

2018.08.31

13:51:51

+08'00'

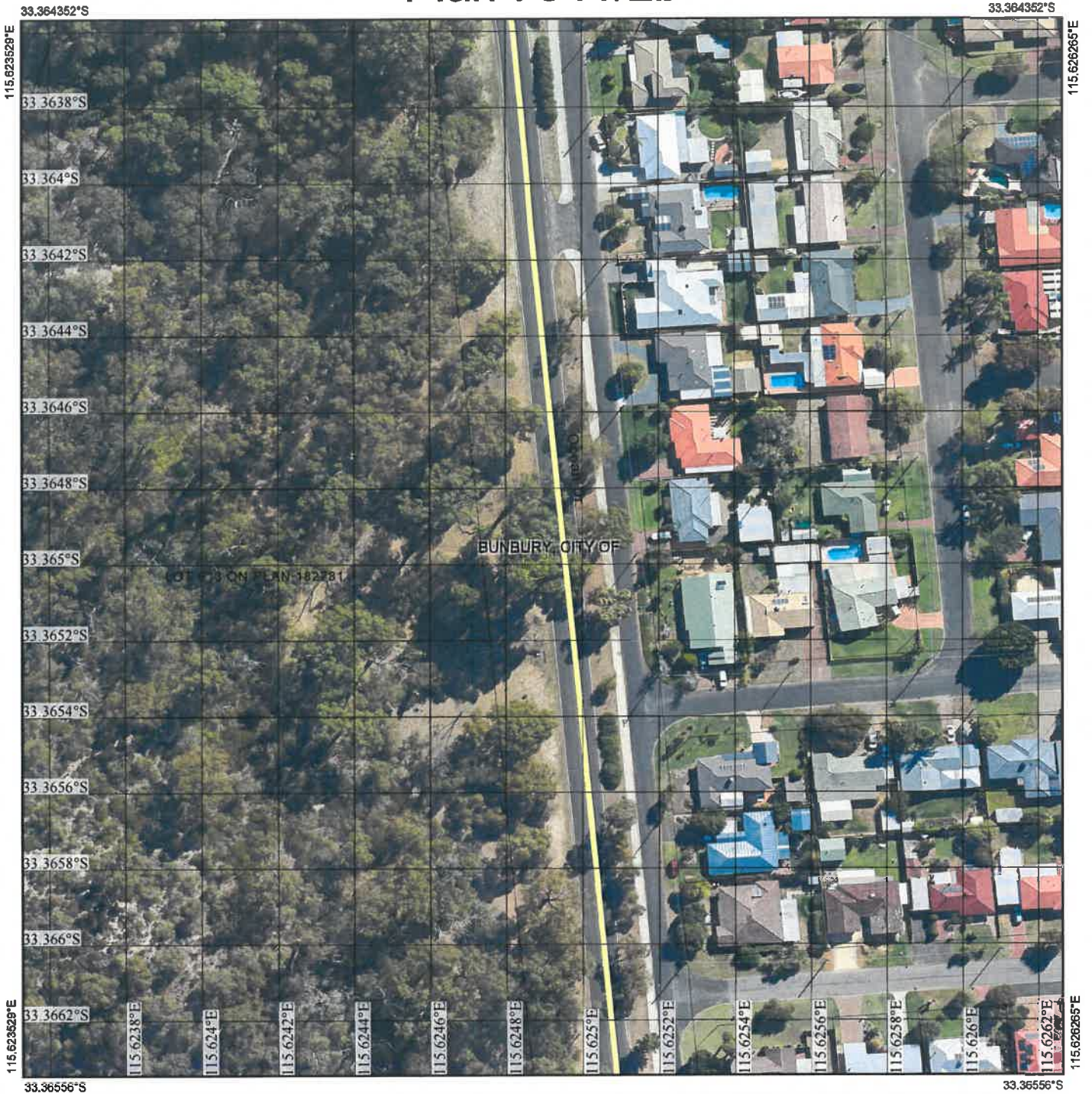
Date

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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Plan 7841/2b



Legend

-  Roads - Main Road
-  Clearing Instruments Conditions
-  Imagery
-  Cadastre
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority



1:1,349

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Samara Rogers

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Date

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7841/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: City of Bunbury

1.3. Property details

Property: Ocean Drive Road Reserve (PIN 1301096)
Local Government Authority: City of Bunbury
Localities: Withers
DBCA District: Wellington
DWER Region: Greater Swan

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.07		Cutting	Constructing a shared path

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit: Granted

Application:

Decision Date: 31 August 2018

Reasons for Decision:

The clearing permit application was received on 30 October 2017 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

The Delegated Officer had regard for the environmental assessment report and fauna survey supplied by the applicant. The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment and has granted a permit subject to conditions.

2. Background

2.1. Existing environment and information

Vegetation Description	The vegetation within the application area is within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA bioregion and mapped as Quindalup Complex, described as 'Coastal dune complex consisting mainly of two alliances – the strand and fore-dune alliance and the mobile and stable dune alliance. Local variations include the low closed forest of <i>M. lanceolata</i> - <i>Callitris preissii</i> and the closed scrub of <i>Acacia rostellifera</i> .' The vegetation is described as a tuart (<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>) woodland over peppermint (<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>) low open woodland, over low open shrubland of <i>Acacia lasiocarpa</i> , <i>Spyridium globulosum</i> , <i>Phyllanthus calycinus</i> , <i>Leucopogon sp.</i> and <i>Alyxia buxifolia</i> over weeds (Ecoedge, 2017).
Vegetation Condition	The vegetation is in a Good to Degraded condition (Keighery, 1994).
Soil and Landform type	The application area is mapped as Spearwood S1d Phase (211Sp) Dune ridges with moderately deep to very deep siliceous yellow-brown sands, rare limestone outcrop and slopes 3-20% occurring on the eastern slipface (Schoknecht <i>et al</i> , 2004).
Comment	The local area referred to in this report is defined as a five kilometre radius around the clearing area.
Proposed Clearing	The vegetation within the application area consists of four tuart (<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>) trees, one WA peppermint (<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>) tree and nine shrubs (comprised of two <i>Acacia lasiocarpa</i> plants and one each of <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> , <i>Alyxia buxifolia</i> , <i>Dianella revoluta</i> , <i>Jacksonia furcellata</i> , <i>Leucopogon sp.</i> , <i>Phyllanthus calycinus</i> , <i>Spyridium globulosum</i>).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

As outlined within section 2 of this report, the application area consists of five trees and nine shrubs.

Given the targeted individual species the proposed clearing is not likely to include threatened and priority flora species within the local area. An assessment of the vegetation was undertaken by Ecoedge in June 2017. No listed threatened or priority flora species were observed within the application area (Ecoedge, 2017).

According to available databases, 32 fauna specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area (DBCWA, 2007-). The application area contains suitable habitat for three threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) and western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*).

Black cockatoos have a preference for foraging habitat that includes jarrah and marri woodlands and forest heathland and woodland dominated by proteaceous plant species such as *Banksia* sp., *Hakea* sp. and *Grevillea* sp. (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). Black cockatoos breed in large hollow-bearing trees, generally within woodlands or forests or in isolated trees (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). 'Breeding habitat' for Carnaby's cockatoo is defined as trees of species known to support breeding within the range of the species which either have a suitable nest hollow or are of a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop a nest hollow. For most tree species, suitable DBH is 500 millimetres (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012).

Three of the five trees within the application area have a DBH of less than 500 millimetres. One of the four trees in the application area has a DBH of greater than 500 millimetres however based on the fauna survey this tree was not observed to contain hollows of any size (Harewood, 2017). No evidence of black cockatoos foraging was observed during the fauna survey. No existing roosting trees were observed during the survey. The survey results suggest that the study area is not an area of significance for any of the three species of black cockatoo known to frequent the general area (Harewood, 2017).

No evidence of western ringtail possums (WRP) using the study area was found (i.e. no dreys, scats or individuals) during a fauna survey (Harewood, 2017). The lack of observations of WRPs within the study area can be attributed to the poor quality of habitat present (Harewood, 2017). The survey results suggest that study area is not an area of significance for western ringtail possums (Harewood, 2017).

The application area does not constitute a threatened ecological community (TEC) or priority ecological community (PEC). The application area does not intersect a TEC/PEC and is not adjacent to a TEC/PEC. Several fragments of the 'Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain' have been mapped within the local area. The closest being approximately 1.4 kilometres from the application area. Given the distance to these TECs the application area is not likely to comprise part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of a TEC.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia have a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 percent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). Within defined constrained areas on the Swan Coastal Plain, the Environmental Protection Authority has set a threshold for retention of 10 percent of the pre-clearing extent of each native vegetation complex (EPA, 2008). The area under application has been classified as a constrained area.

The Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion retains 37.85 per cent remnant vegetation. The local area retains approximately 10 per cent native vegetation, which meets the 10 per cent requirement within the constrained area. Noting the limited clearing in the application area, and amount of surrounding vegetation it is unlikely to be significant as a remnant within a highly cleared landscape. There are six Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions managed lands within the local area the nearest being 4.6 kilometres away. The closest mapped conservation area is outside the local area at 7.7 kilometres away. Given the distance to these areas the proposed clearing will not impact on the environmental values of these areas.

Noting the soil type, the extent of the proposed clearing and that there are no wetlands or watercourses within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to result in appreciable land degradation or deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, and is not likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

4. Planning instruments and other relevant matters

The original clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) website on 30 November 2017 for a 14 day public submission period. No submissions were received in relation to this application. An application to amend clearing permit 7841/1 was received on 5 June 2018 to include an additional tree. Notice of proposed amendment was advertised on the DWER website on 16 August 2018 for a period of seven days. No public submissions were received.

5. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2012) EPBC Act Referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and Forest red-tailed black cockatoo. Commonwealth of Australia. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed January 2018
- Ecoedge (2017) Supporting information for clearing permit application (DWER Ref A1554347)
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2008) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- Government of Western Australia. (2017a) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of February 2017. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth
- Government of Western Australia. (2017b) 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of September 2017) WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004) Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia – Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture. Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed January 2018).

GIS Databases

- SAC bio datasets accessed February 2018
- Aerial Imagery
- DBCA Tenure
- Hydrography , Linear
- Topographic contours
- Flood Risk
- Soils – Sub-systems
- Groundwater Salinity
- Pre-European vegetation
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
- Aboriginal sites of significance
- Town Planning Scheme
- Virtual Mosaic